

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/029,174

Examiner

Steven D. Maki

Applicant(s)

BOIOCCHI ET AL.

Art Unit

1733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6-22-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 35-72 and 76-81.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Reasons for Allowance

- 1) The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, which supplements applicant's arguments filed 6-22-06:

With respect to "asymmetric" (added to claim 35), literal support for this limitation can be found in the original disclosure at page 5 lines 4-7 and page 12 lines 17-24.

With respect to the shoulder transverse grooves being "substantially perpendicular" and when the original disclosure is fairly read as a whole and particularly in view of figures 2,5, page 6 lines 6-16, page 10 lines 10-19 and figures 1,4, page 12 lines 1-3, the original disclosure reasonably conveys the subject matter of the shoulder transverse grooves being "substantially perpendicular to a circumferential direction of the tyre".

The prior art of record fails to disclose, teach or suggest a high performance tire having shoulder blocks "joined to each other along axially inner ends of the ... shoulder blocks by a ... circumferential portion" in first and second shoulder regions **and** transverse grooves being "substantially perpendicular to a circumferential direction of the tyre" in the first and second shoulder regions **in combination with** (1) the subject matter of:

- (a) "asymmetric tyre" and "the central region comprises: a row of inner central blocks; first and second rows of outer central blocks; and first and second annular projections" as set forth in claim 35,

(b) "directional tyre", "the central region comprises: first and second rows of central blocks; and a central annular projection" and central blocks being "approximately cusp-shaped" as set forth in claim 60,

(c) "directional tyre", "the central region comprises: first and second rows of central blocks; and a central annular projection" and central blocks being "approximately semiparabolic-shaped" as set forth in claim 78,

(d) "directional tyre", "the central region comprises: first and second rows of central blocks; and a central annular projection" and "circumferential grooves comprise half-wave harmonic courses" as set forth in claim 80, or

(e) "directional tyre", "the central region comprises rows of central blocks", "axially outer lateral wall ... inclined more", and "bottom wall with an inclined profile decreasing" as set forth in claim 77,

and further in combination with (2) the remaining limitations of the respective independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven D. Maki whose telephone number is (571) 272-1221. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (571) 272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Steven D. Maki
September 4, 2006


STEVEN D. MAKI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
9-4-06